

WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE. REMEDIATION DIVISION

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Town of Fairfield

Department of Community and Economic Development
Old Town Hall
611 Old Post Road
Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

February 20, 2013

Carolyn Fusaro
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Exide Group Incorporated Sediment Remedial Action Plan

Dear Ms. Fusaro,

I am writing on behalf of the Fairfield Economic Development Commission (EDC) relative to the Sediment Remedial Action Plan for the Mill River as prepared and submitted on behalf of the Exide Group Incorporated.

I and several other Commissioners had occasion to attend the public informational meeting held on January 10th of this year, as well as the joint informational meeting hosted by our own Conservation Commission approximately one year prior. I and others of us present were struck by the similarities in the information being presented, as well as the questions and comments posed. In short, it didn't appear like a lot of new information from one year to the next.

It was also sobering to hear one of the consultants admit that he has spent virtually his entire professional career—spanning thirty plus years—on remedial investigations involving this site. The Economic Development Commission, like many Fairfield residents, would like to see those involved move beyond remedial investigations and reports. While we don't profess to be remedial specialists, and will defer to the good judgment of the technical experts including those at CTDEEP, the EDC supports the clean-up of the Mill River in as expeditious a manner as is possible.

While no plan is perfect, and things seldom go according to plan, the EDC supports the Department's expeditious review and approval of a Remedial Action Plan for the Mill River so that clean up can proceed forthwith. It is our understanding that this is an outcome based plan, and that it is incumbent upon the applicant to demonstrate compliance and to ensure that all clean-up objectives have been satisfied. We trust that the Department will require appropriate oversight and monitoring to achieve that end, and to make any necessary adjustments during

the performance of the work. We would specifically like to request placement and enforcement of appropriate noise and odor controls during work to minimize impacts to adjoining property owners.

The Economic Development Commission looks forward to returning this strategic site to productive use in the very near future. Thank you again for this opportunity to comment.

Peter Penczer,

Chairman_

cc:

M. Tetreau, First Selectman